

**Biphenyl Containing Amido Schiff base Derivative as a Turn-on Fluorescent Chemosensor for Al<sup>3+</sup> and Zn<sup>2+</sup> ions**

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## **1. General**

### **1.1. Materials**

All reagents and spectroscopic grade solvents were used as received from commercial sources without further purification. All cations in the form of perchlorate / nitrate salts were purchased from Sigma-Aldrich Chemical Company. Solvents used for spectroscopic studies were of spectroscopic grade. Aqueous medium experiments have been done in deionized water.

### **1.2. Methods**

Hitachi UV–vis (Model U-3501) spectrophotometer and Perkin Elmer LS-55 spectrofluorometer, were used to record the absorption spectra and emission spectra respectively. IR spectra (KBr pellet, 4000–400  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) were recorded on a Parkin Elmer model 883 infrared spectrophotometer. Shimadzu LCMS-2020 was used for recording mass spectrum.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker, Avance 500 spectrometer, where chemical shifts ( $\delta$  in ppm) were determined with respect to tetramethylsilane (TMS) as internal standards.

## 2. Benesi-Hildebrand Plot:

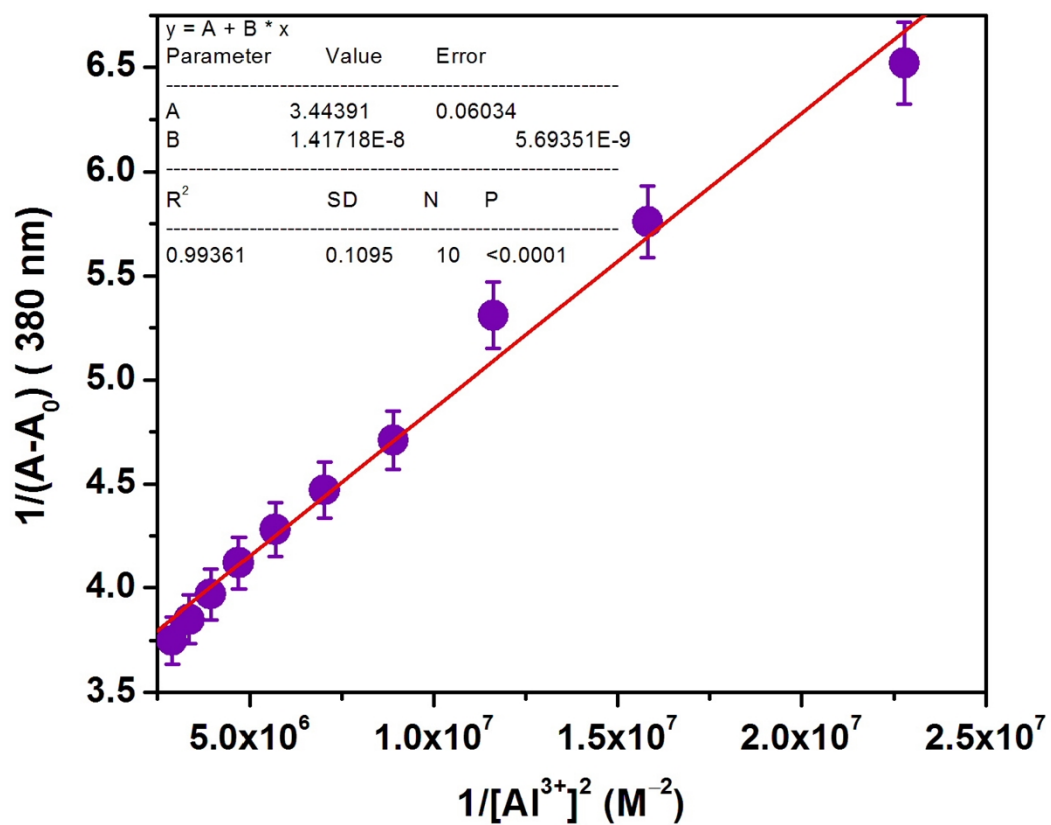


Figure S1. B-H plot for UV-vis titration of **1** with  $Al^{3+}$

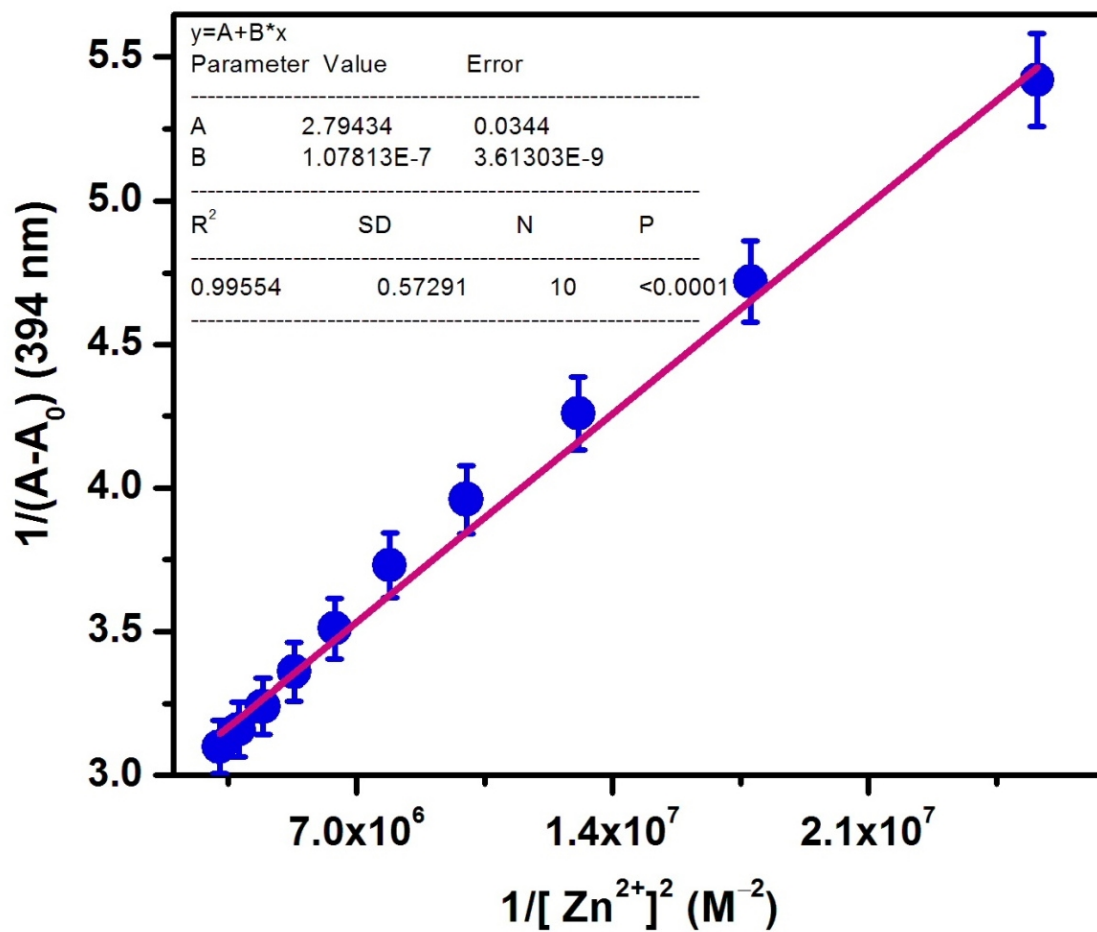
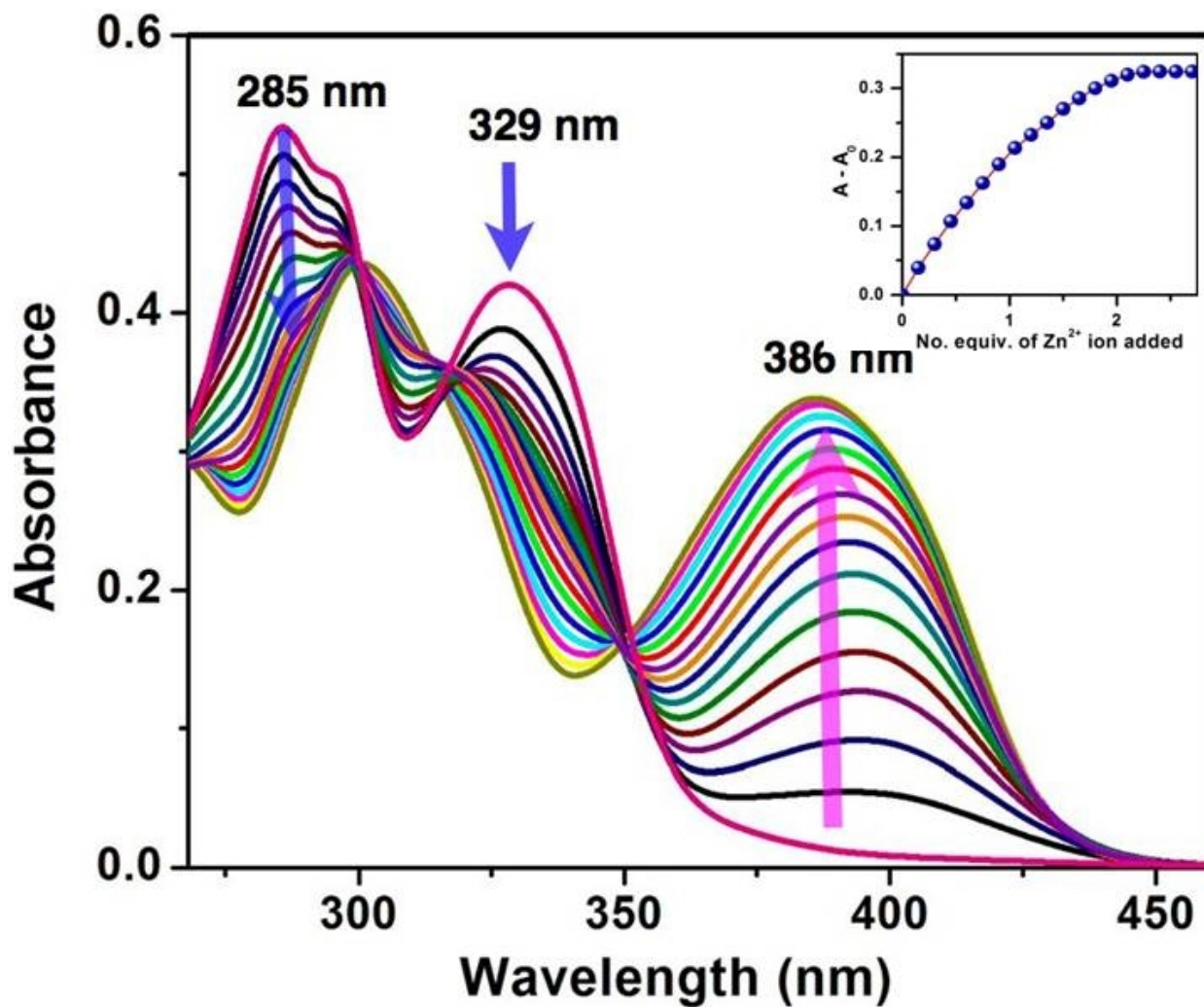


Figure S2. B–H plot for UV-vis titration of **1** with  $Zn^{2+}$ .

### 3. UV-vis titration:



**Figure S3.** UV-vis titration of **1** ( $1 \times 10^{-5}$  M) in DMF- H<sub>2</sub>O solvent (v/v, 7:3) upon addition of (0-3 equivalents) of Zn<sup>2+</sup> ion ( inset: absorbance at 386 nm as a function of the equivalence of Zn<sup>2+</sup> ion).

#### 4. Job's plot:

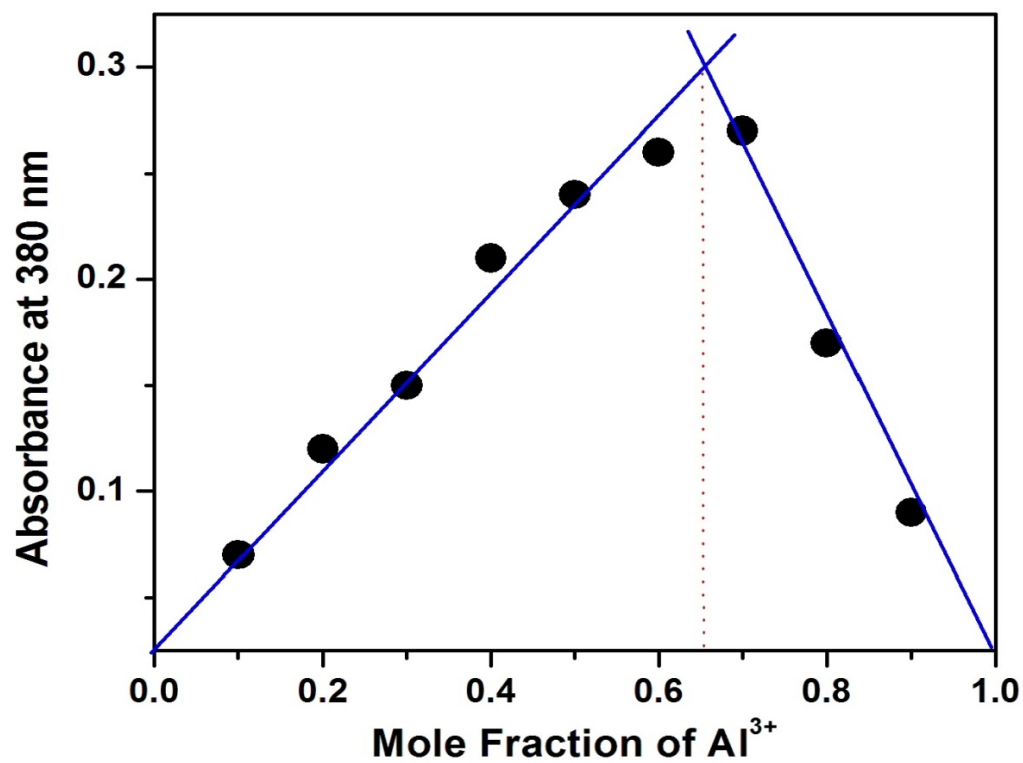
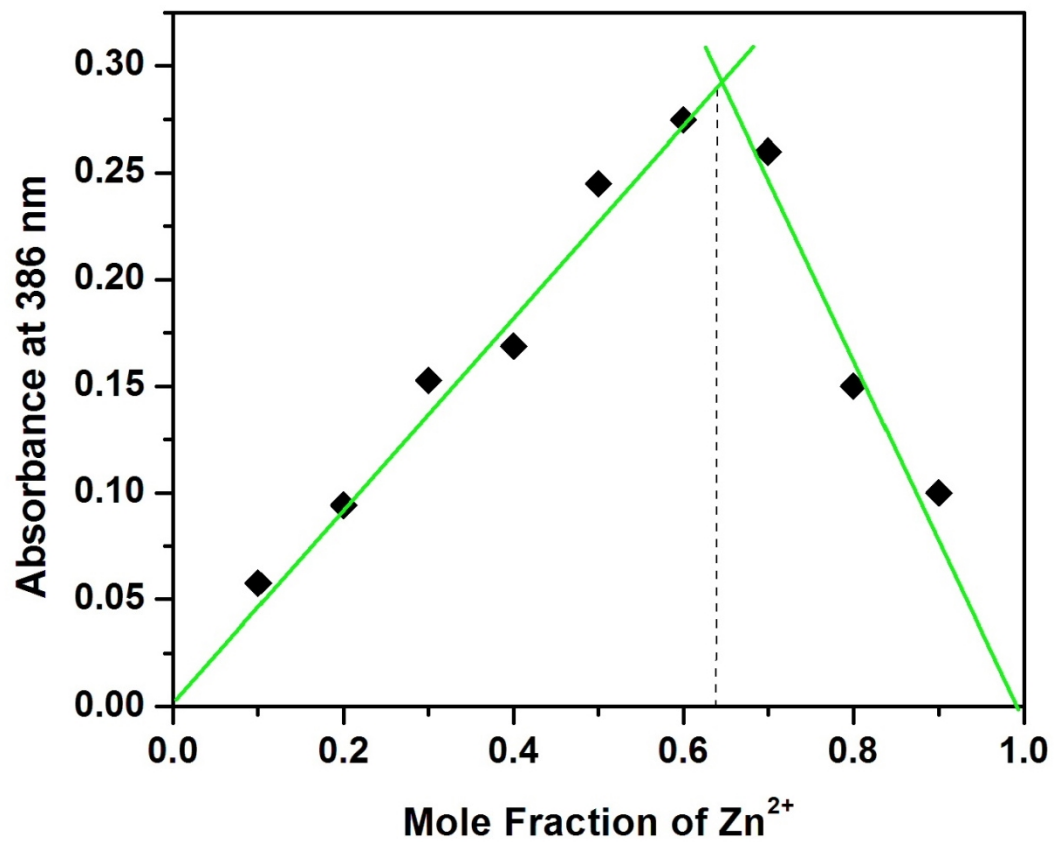


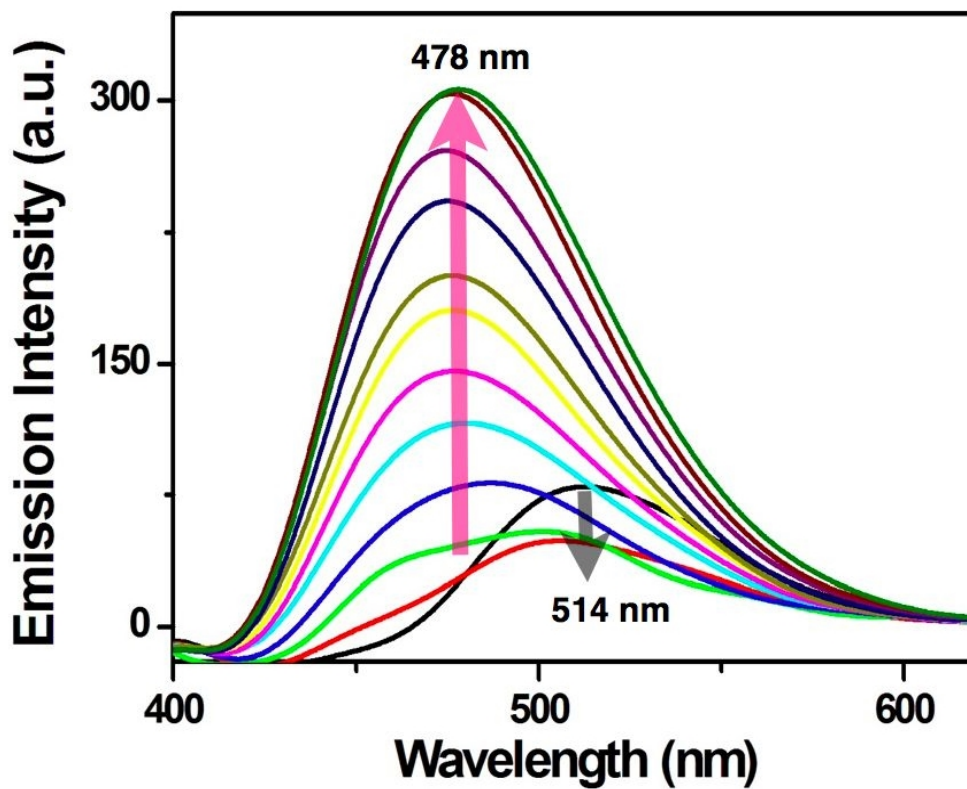
Figure S4. Job's plot for determining the stoichiometry of sensor **1** and  $\text{Al}^{3+}$  in the complex.



**Figure S5.** Job's plot for determining the stoichiometry of molecule **1** and Zn<sup>2+</sup> in the complex.



## 5. Fluorescence spectra



**Figure S6.** Changes in fluorescence spectra of sensor **1** ( $1 \times 10^{-6}$  M) in the DMF- $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  solution (v/v, 7:3) induced by  $\text{Zn}^{2+}$  ion.

## 6. Detection limit:

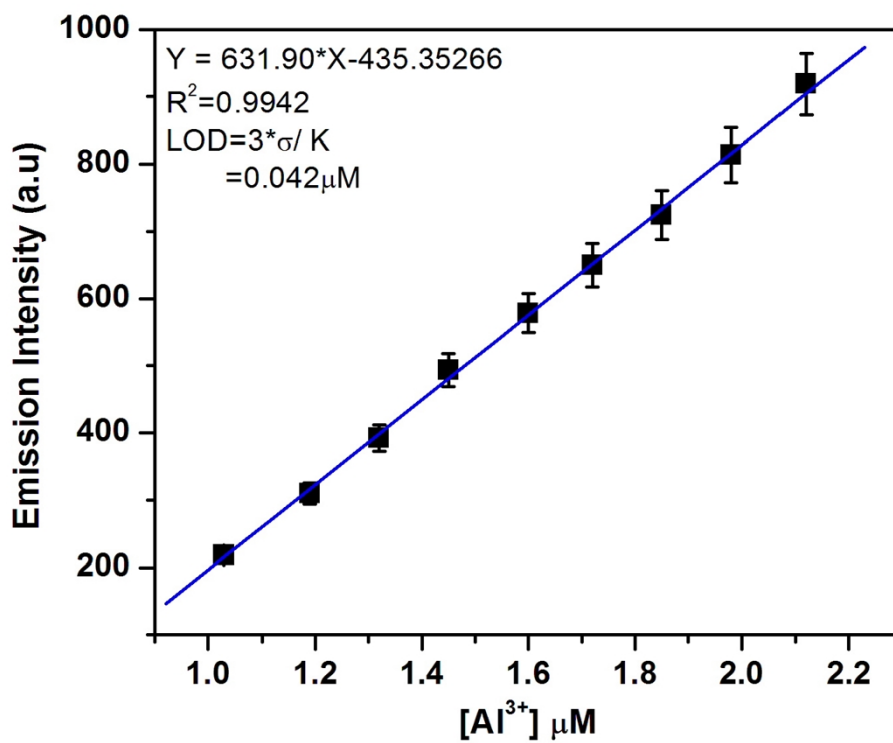


Figure S7. Detection limit of molecule **1** to Al<sup>3+</sup> based on 3σ/slope

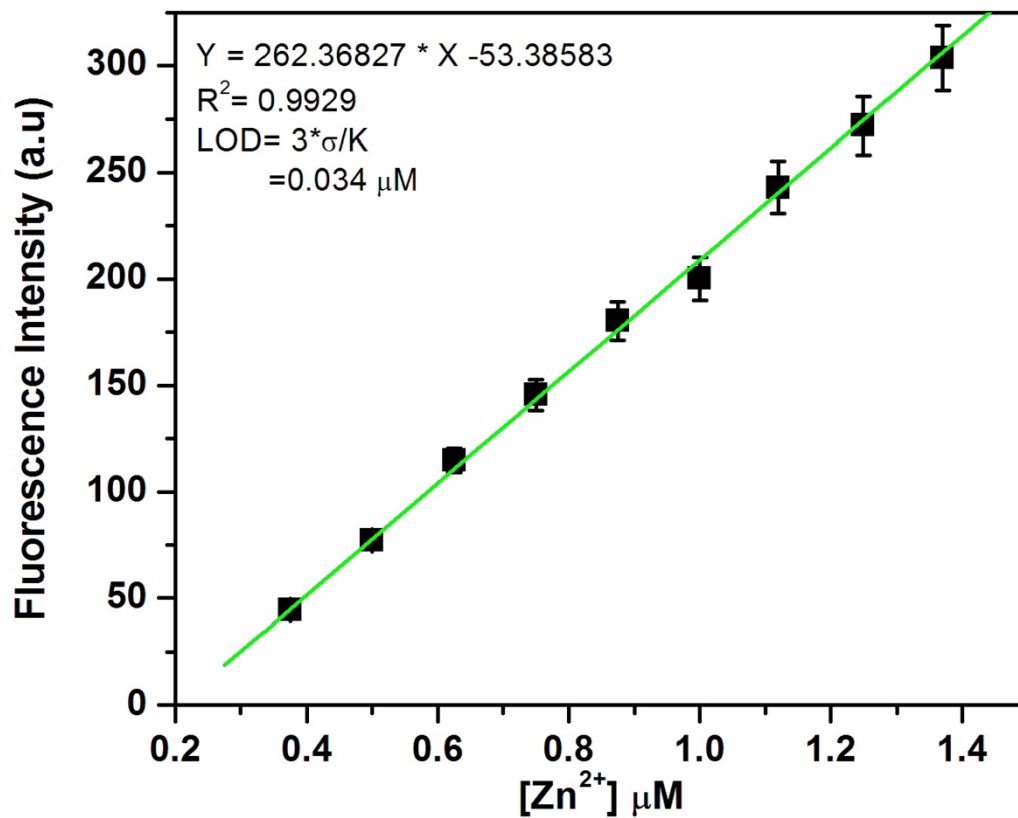
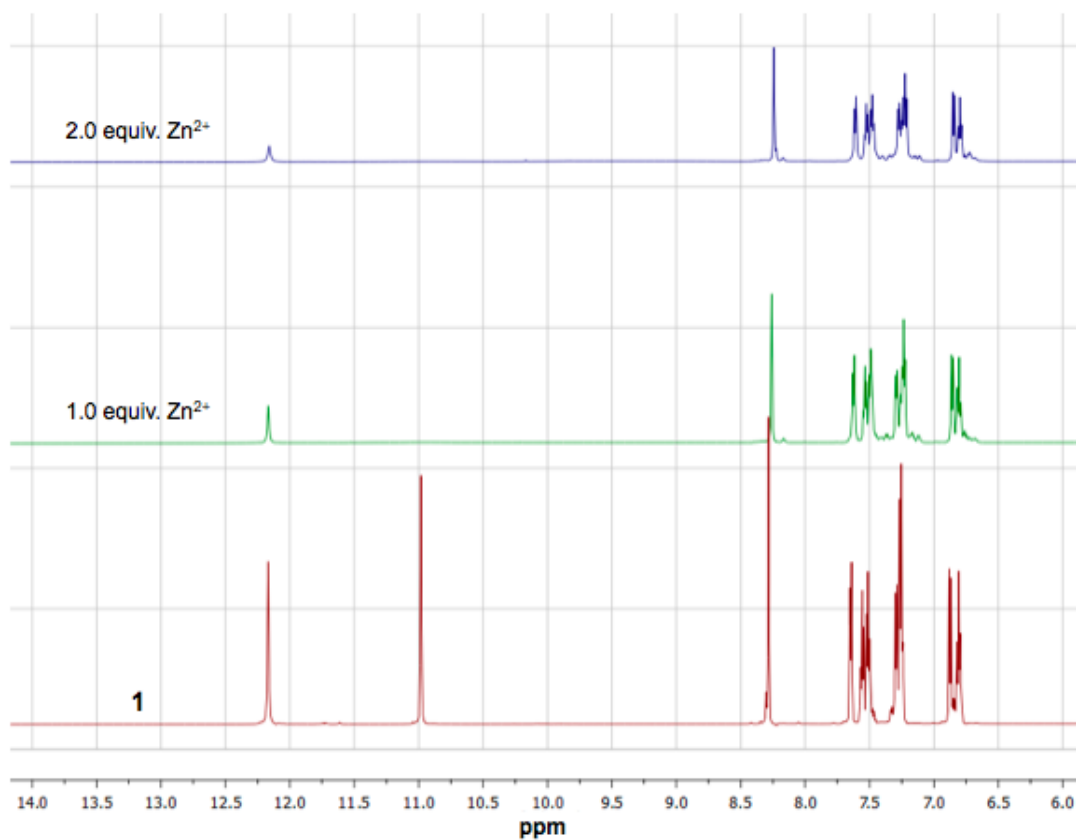


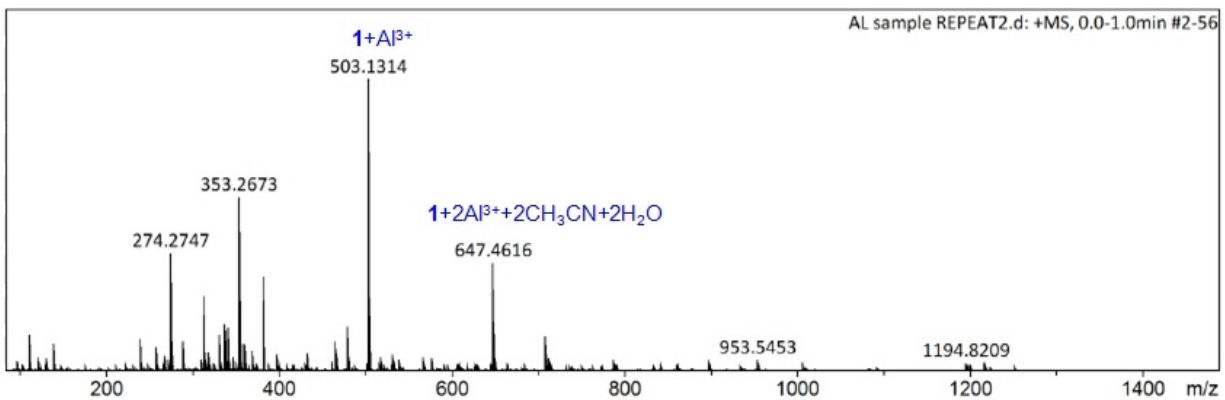
Figure S8. Detection limit of molecule **1** to Zn<sup>2+</sup> based on 3σ/slope.

### 7. $^1\text{H}$ NMR titration spectra:

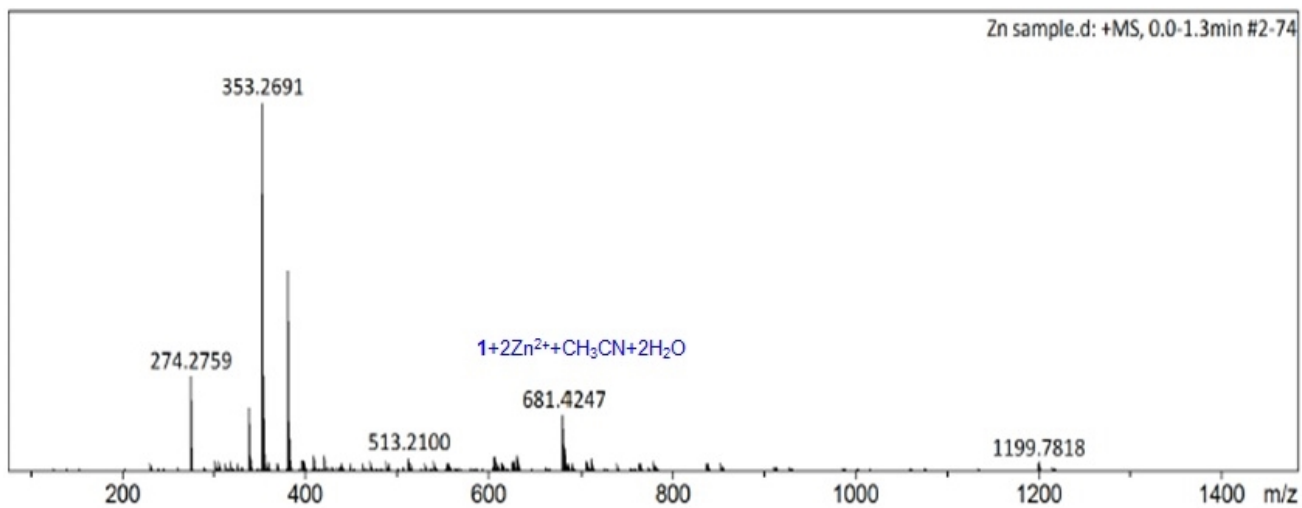


**Figure S9.** Partial  $^1\text{H}$  NMR titration spectra of sensor **1** in  $d_6$ -DMSO upon addition of different amount of  $\text{Zn}^{2+}$  ion

## 8. Mass spectra:



**Figure S10.** Mass spectrum of 1-Al<sup>3+</sup> complex.



**Figure S11.** Mass spectrum of 1-Zn<sup>2+</sup> complex.

9. Probable structure:

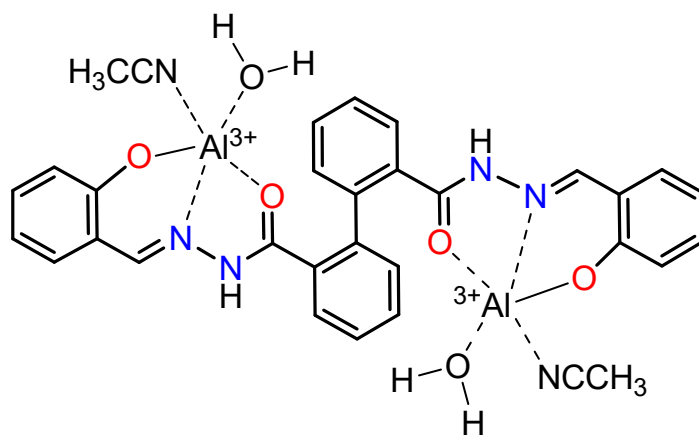
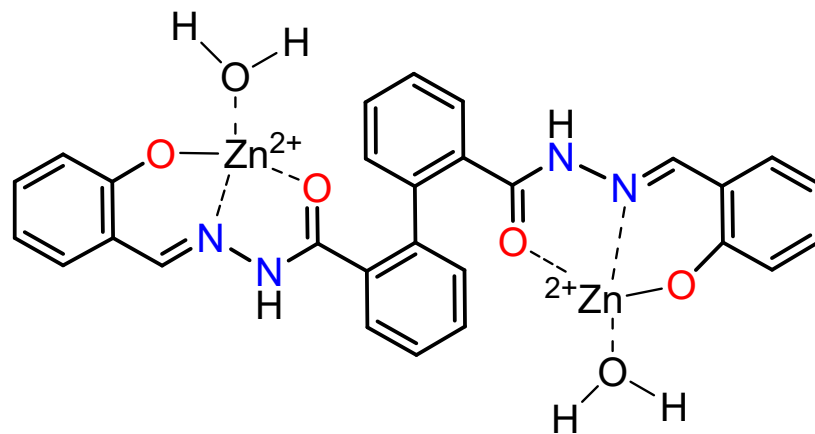
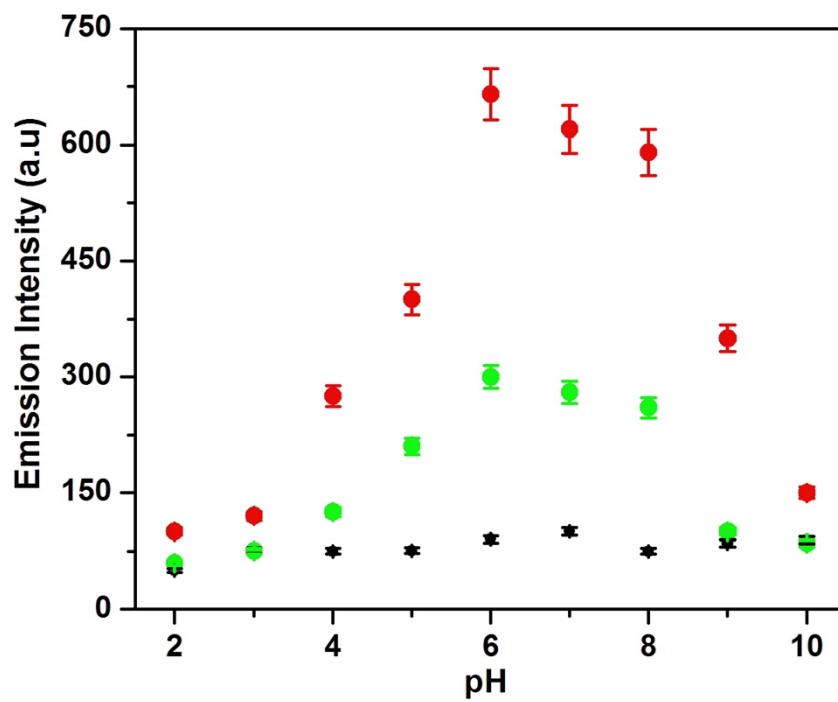


Figure S12. Probable structure of 1- Al<sup>3+</sup> complex



**Figure S13.** Probable structure of **1**- Zn<sup>2+</sup> complex

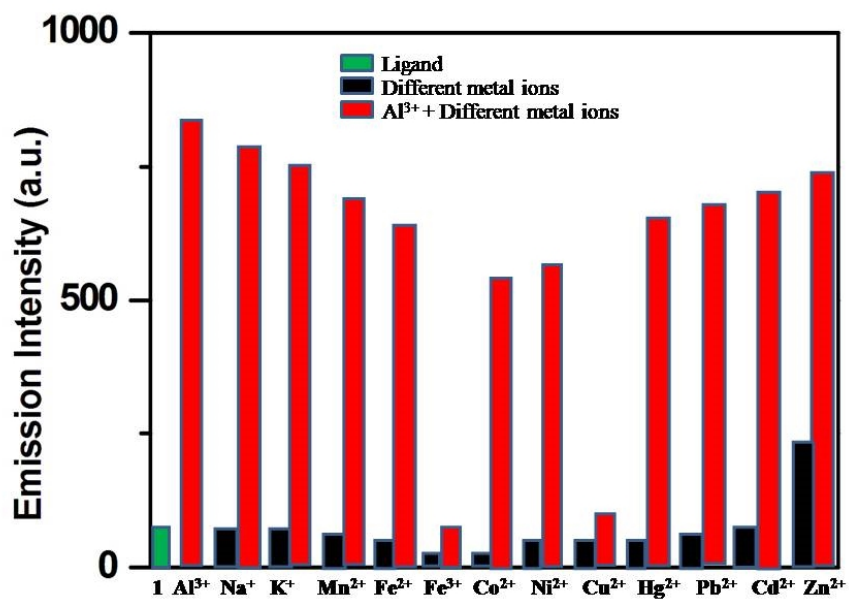
## 10. Effect of pH



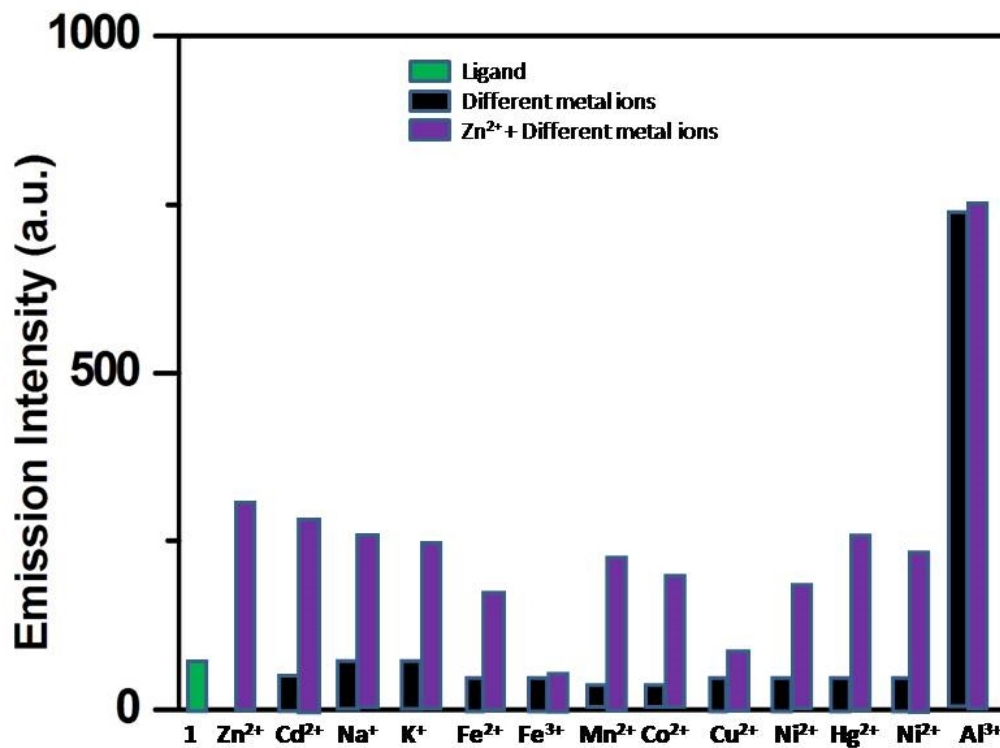
**Figure S14.** Change in fluorescence intensity sensor 1 ( $1 \times 10^{-6}$  M) (●), its Al<sup>3+</sup> (●) and Zn<sup>2+</sup> (●) complexes in different pH values.



## 11. Competition experiment:



**Figure S15** Competition experiments of **1**, a plot of fluorescence intensity at 458 nm of **1** with addition of 3.0 equiv. of  $\text{Al}^{3+}$ , and then 10.0 equiv. of various metal ions, ( $\lambda_{\text{ex}}$ : 350 nm).



**Figure S16.** Competition experiments of **1**, a plot of fluorescence intensity at 478 nm of **1** with addition of 3.0 equiv. of Zn<sup>2+</sup>, and then 10.0 equiv. of various metal ions, ( $\lambda_{\text{ex}}$ : 350 nm).

## 12. UV-Vis spectra with EDTA:

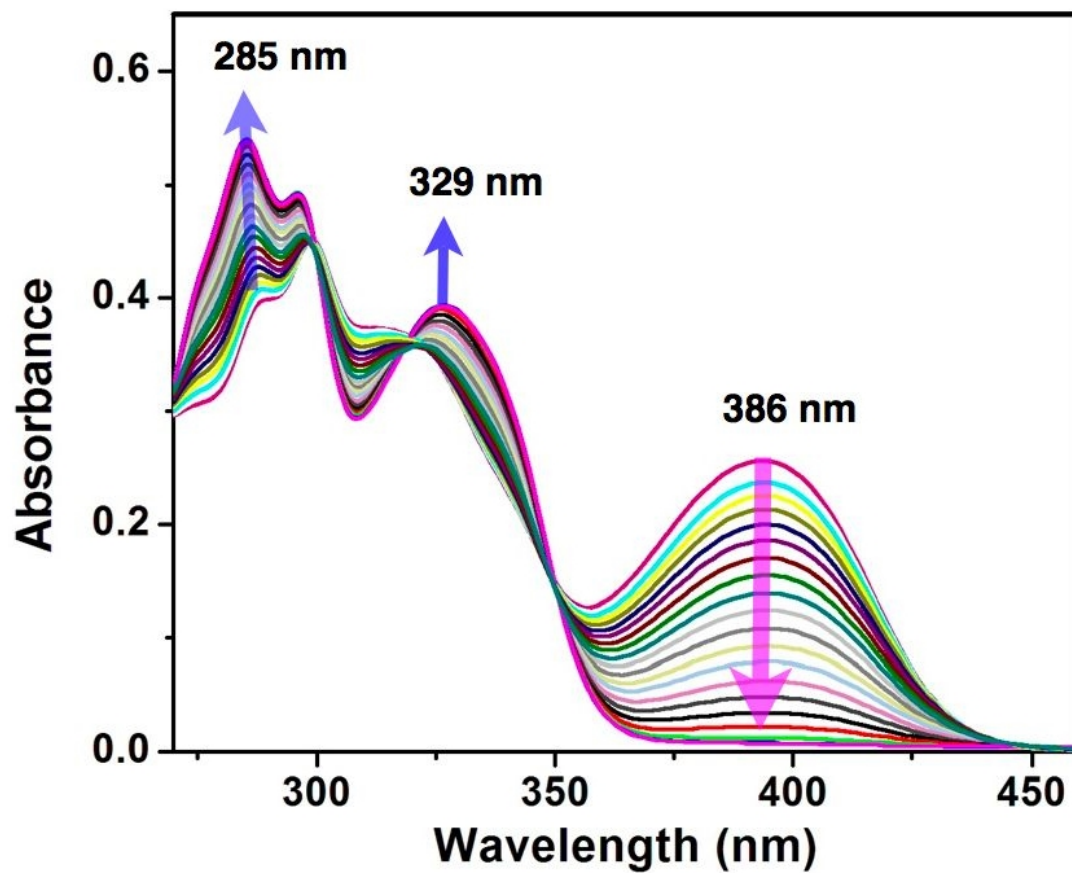
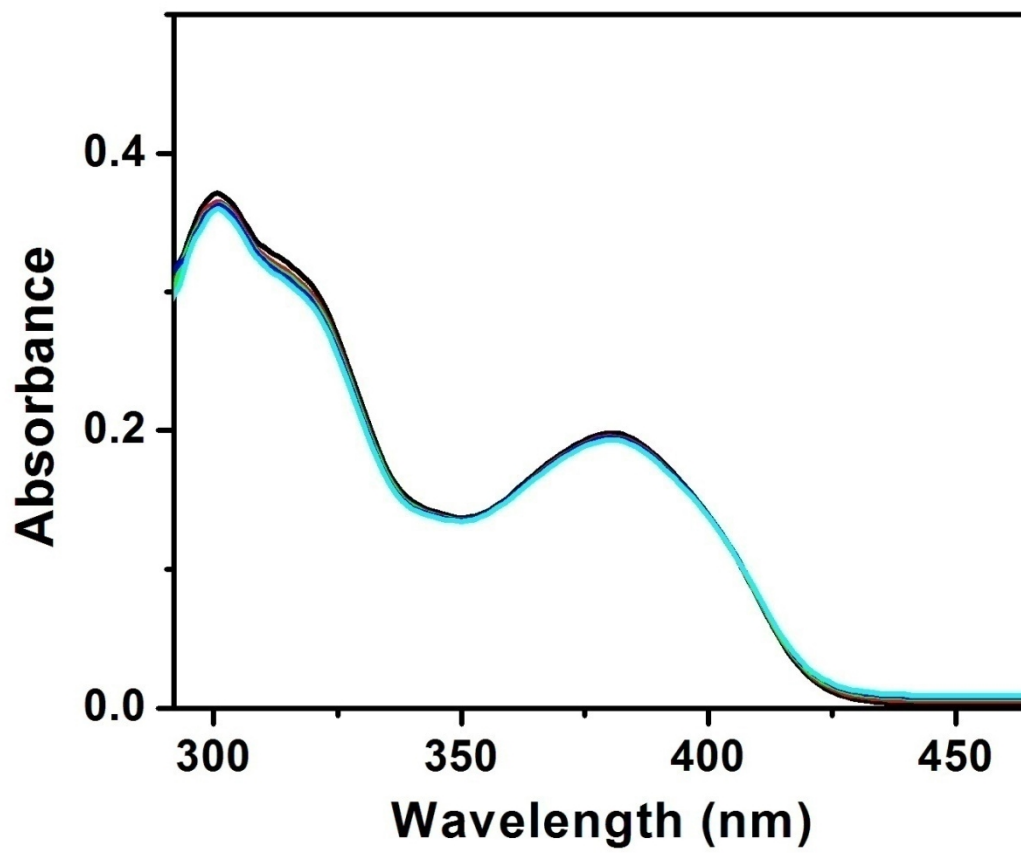


Figure S17. UV-Vis titration of 1- Zn<sup>2+</sup> complex with EDTA in DMF- H<sub>2</sub>O solvent (v/v, 7:3).



**Figure S18.** UV-Vis titration of Al<sup>3+</sup>-1 complex with EDTA in DMF- H<sub>2</sub>O solvent (v/v, 7:3).

### 13. Emission spectra with EDTA:

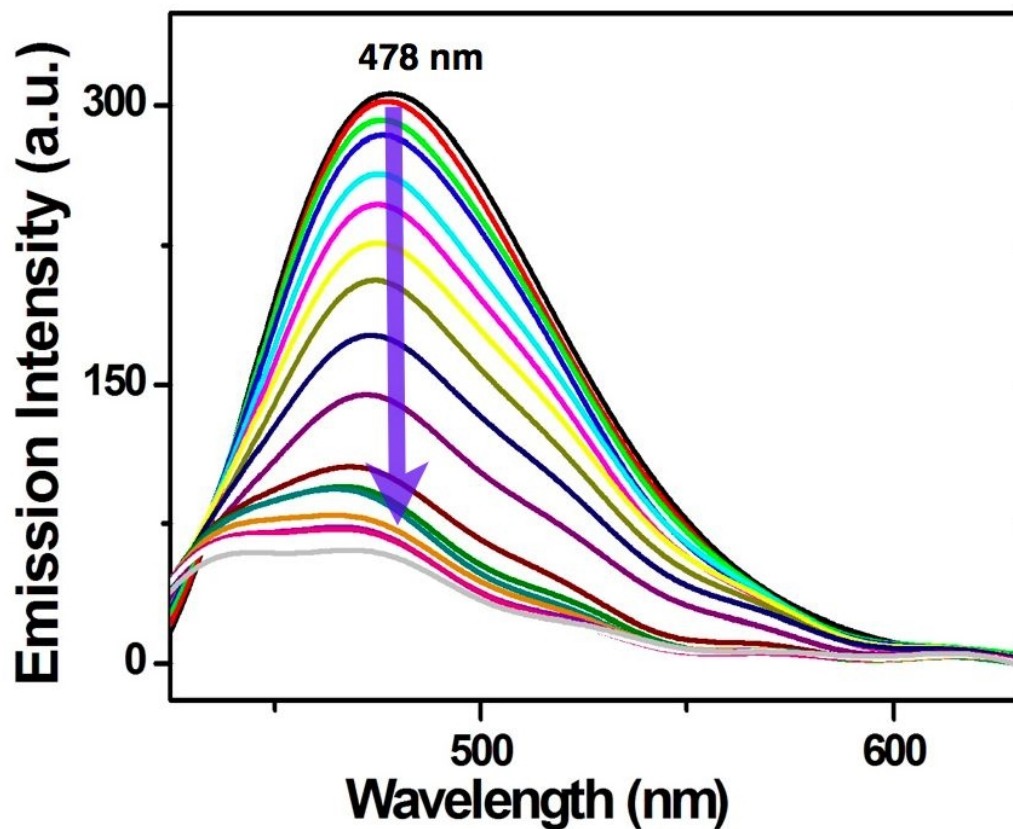
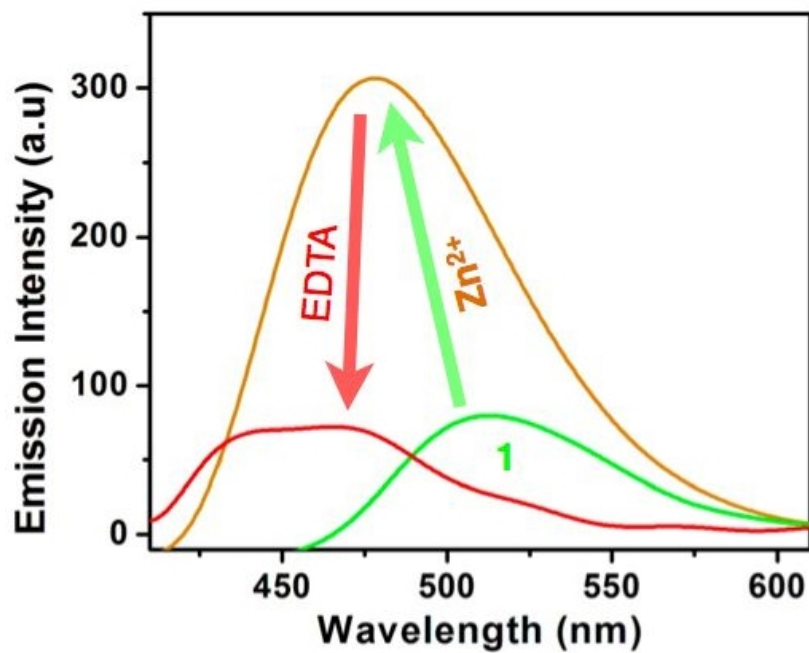
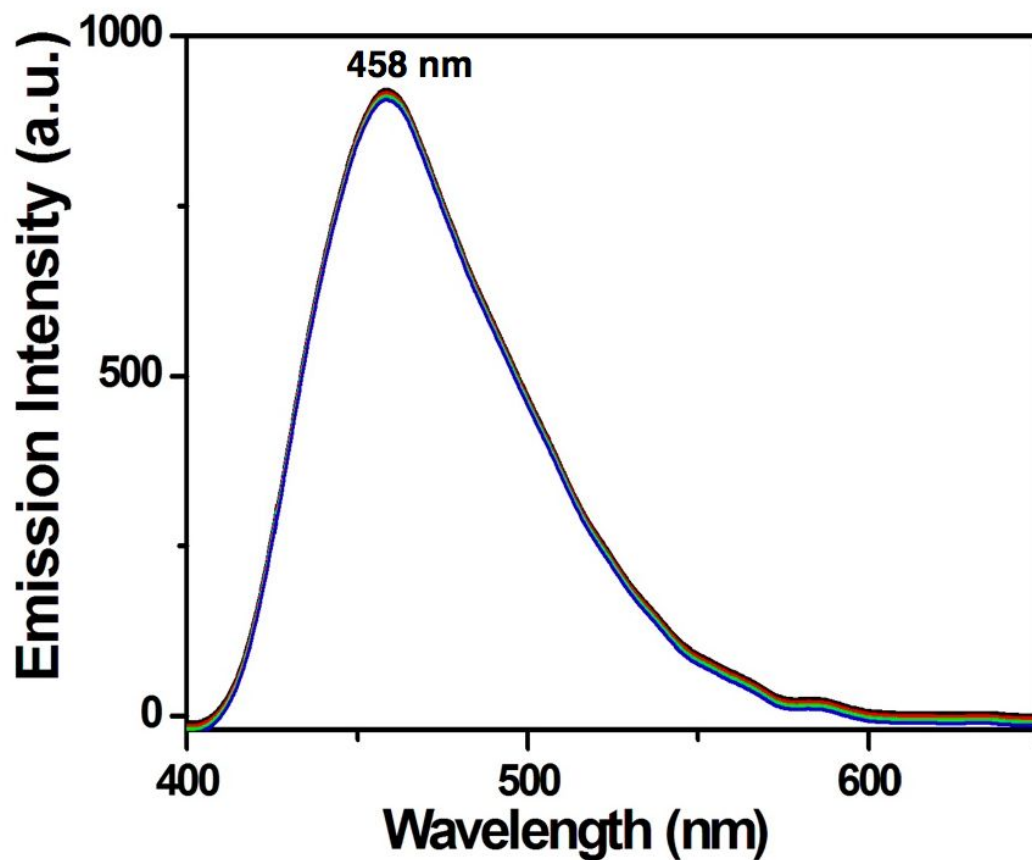


Figure S19. Fluorescence titration of 1-Zn<sup>2+</sup> complex in DMF-H<sub>2</sub>O solvent (v/v, 7:3) upon addition of (0-5 equivalents) of EDTA.



**Figure S20.** Fluorescence intensity change of **1** and **1-Zn<sup>2+</sup>** complex upon addition of **Zn<sup>2+</sup>** and EDTA sequentially in DMF-H<sub>2</sub>O solvent (v/v, 7:3)



**Figure S21.** Fluorescence titration of 1-Al<sup>3+</sup> complex in DMF- H<sub>2</sub>O solvent (v/v, 7:3) upon addition of (0-5 equivalents) of EDTA.

## 14. Comparative table:

**Table S1:** Comparative table of past reported probes on the basis of their medium, binding constant, limit of detection and application.

Sl.No.	Analyte	Medium	Method	Binding Constant( $K_b$ )	Detection limit (M)	Applications	Ref.
1	Al <sup>3+</sup> Cu <sup>2+</sup>	EtOH/Water	Fluorometric Colorimetric	Al <sup>3+</sup> : $2.83 \times 10^{10}$ Cu <sup>2+</sup> : $5.69 \times 10^9$	Al <sup>3+</sup> : $9.10 \times 10^{-8}$ Cu <sup>2+</sup> : $3.54 \times 10^{-7}$	Logic gate, Live cell imaging and paper strips	1
2	Al <sup>3+</sup> , F <sup>-</sup>	DMSO/ H <sub>2</sub> O	Fluorometric	Al <sup>3+</sup> : $8.50 \times 10^5$	Al <sup>3+</sup> : $1.05 \times 10^{-8}$	Logic gate, Live cell imaging	2
3	Al <sup>3+</sup> H <sub>3</sub> PO <sub>4</sub> <sup>-</sup>	CH <sub>3</sub> OH	Fluorometric	Al <sup>3+</sup> : $3.6 \times 10^4$	Al <sup>3+</sup> : $8.30 \times 10^{-7}$ H <sub>3</sub> PO <sub>4</sub> <sup>-</sup> : $1.7 \times 10^{-6}$	Paper strips	3
4	Al <sup>3+</sup> Zn <sup>2+</sup>	CH <sub>3</sub> OH/HEPES Buffer	Fluorometric	Al <sup>3+</sup> : $1.3 \times 10^6$ Zn <sup>2+</sup> : $7.9 \times 10^4$	Al <sup>3+</sup> : $8.30 \times 10^{-8}$ Zn <sup>2+</sup> : $1.24 \times 10^{-7}$	Logic gate Live cell imaging	4
5	Al <sup>3+</sup>	CH <sub>3</sub> OH / H <sub>2</sub> O	Fluorometric	Al <sup>3+</sup> : $5.42 \times 10^5$	Al <sup>3+</sup> : $3.55 \times 10^{-7}$	Paper strips Logic gate	5
6	Al <sup>3+</sup> Cr <sup>3+</sup>	CH <sub>3</sub> CN	Fluorometric	Al <sup>3+</sup> : $5.44 \times 10^4$ Cr <sup>3+</sup> : $8.33 \times 10^4$	Al <sup>3+</sup> : $3.1 \times 10^{-7}$ Cr <sup>3+</sup> : $2.5 \times 10^{-7}$	-	6
7	Al <sup>3+</sup>	DMSO/ H <sub>2</sub> O	Fluorometric	Al <sup>3+</sup> : $4.09 \times 10^4$	Al <sup>3+</sup> : $1.20 \times 10^{-7}$	Live cell imaging	7
8	Al <sup>3+</sup>	DMSO/ H <sub>2</sub> O	Fluorometric		Al <sup>3+</sup> : $1.90 \times 10^{-6}$	-	8
9	Al <sup>3+</sup>	CH <sub>3</sub> OH /H <sub>2</sub> O	Fluorometric	$2.85 \times 10^5$	Al <sup>3+</sup> : $1.1 \times 10^{-7}$	-	9
10	Al <sup>3+</sup> Zn <sup>2+</sup> Cd <sup>2+</sup>	CH <sub>3</sub> OH /HEPES Buffer	Fluorometric	Al <sup>3+</sup> : $1.5 \times 10^3 M^{-1/2}$ Zn <sup>2+</sup> : $5 \times 10^5$ Cd <sup>2+</sup> : $3.5 \times 10^5$	Al <sup>3+</sup> : $5.7 \times 10^{-9}$ Zn <sup>2+</sup> : $1.09 \times 10^{-6}$ Cd <sup>2+</sup> : $1.64 \times 10^{-6}$	-	10
11	Al <sup>3+</sup> Cu <sup>2+</sup>	CH <sub>3</sub> CN	Fluorometric Colorimetric	Al <sup>3+</sup> : $1.80 \times 10^4$ Cu <sup>2+</sup> : $2.02 \times 10^4$	Al <sup>3+</sup> : $1.48 \times 10^{-6}$ Cu <sup>2+</sup> : $2.05 \times 10^{-6}$	-	11
12	Al <sup>3+</sup>	DMF/H <sub>2</sub> O	Fluorometric	Al <sup>3+</sup> : $2.75 \times 10^3$	Al <sup>3+</sup> : $4.9 \times 10^{-7}$	Paper strips	12
13	Al <sup>3+</sup>	CH <sub>3</sub> OH	Fluorometric	Al <sup>3+</sup> : $1.6 \times 10^4$	Al <sup>3+</sup> : $2.7 \times 10^{-7}$	Paper strips	13
14	Al <sup>3+</sup>	DMSO	Fluorometric	Al <sup>3+</sup> : $1.4 \times 10^4$	Al <sup>3+</sup> : $2.0 \times 10^{-7}$	Paper strips	14
15	Al <sup>3+</sup> Zn <sup>2+</sup>	CH <sub>3</sub> OH /H <sub>2</sub> O Buffer CH <sub>3</sub> OH /H <sub>2</sub> O Buffer	Fluorometric	Al <sup>3+</sup> : $1.94 \times 10^4$  Zn <sup>2+</sup> : $1.19 \times 10^5$	Al <sup>3+</sup> : $1.45 \times 10^{-7}$  Zn <sup>2+</sup> : $1.29 \times 10^{-8}$	-	15
16	Al <sup>3+</sup> Zn <sup>2+</sup>	Tris-HCl buffer EtOH /H <sub>2</sub> O	Fluorometric	Al <sup>3+</sup> : $3.50 \times 10^9$ M <sup>-2</sup> Zn <sup>2+</sup> : $4.27 \times 10^4$ M <sup>-1</sup>	Al <sup>3+</sup> : $1.27 \times 10^{-7}$ M Zn <sup>2+</sup> : $5.5 \times 10^{-8}$ M	Recovery in real samples	16
17	Al <sup>3+</sup> Zn <sup>2+</sup>	DMF/H <sub>2</sub> O	Fluorometric	Al <sup>3+</sup> : $2.43 \times 10^8$ M <sup>-2</sup> Zn <sup>2+</sup> : $2.59 \times 10^7$ M <sup>-2</sup>	Al <sup>3+</sup> : $4.2 \times 10^{-8}$ M Zn <sup>2+</sup> : $3.4 \times 10^{-8}$ M	Paper strips Logic gate	This work



**15. Application study table:**

Table S2: Determination of Al<sup>3+</sup> recovery sample.

Sample	Al <sup>3+</sup> added ( $\mu$ mol L <sup>-1</sup> )	Al <sup>3+</sup> found ( $\mu$ mol L <sup>-1</sup> )	Recovery (%)	R.S.D (n=3)(%)
Tap water	0.00	0.00	-	-
	10.00	9.60	96.0	1.52
Drinking water	0.00	0.00	-	-
	10.00	9.80	98.0	0.73

Table S3: Determination of Zn<sup>2+</sup> recovery sample.

Sample	Zn <sup>2+</sup> added ( $\mu$ mol L <sup>-1</sup> )	Zn <sup>2+</sup> found ( $\mu$ mol L <sup>-1</sup> )	Recovery (%)	R.S.D (n=3)(%)
Tap water	0.00	0.00	-	-
	10.00	9.33	93.3	2.46
Drinking water	0.00	0.00	-	-
	10.00	9.50	95.0	1.78

## 16. References:

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